

What is claimed is:

1. A product repairing method comprising the steps of:
- receiving a request from a first repair subscriber for repairing a product;
- 5 selling a replacement part to said first repair subscriber in response to the request, provided that the replacement part necessary for said requested repair is in stock;
- retrieving second repair subscribers holding said replacement part by means of a computer storing a subscribers
- 10 data base accumulating information on a plurality of repair subscribers, and procuring said replacement part from one of the second repair subscribers, provided that said replacement part necessary for the requested repair is not in stock; and
- repairing said product by using said replacement part.
- 15 2. The product repairing method according to claim 1, wherein, if said replacement part necessary for the requested repair is not in stock, the step of procuring said replacement part from said one of the second repair subscribers includes the steps of:
- 20 receiving deposit of the price of said replacement part from said first repair subscriber;
- receiving consignment of said replacement part from said second repair subscriber;
- supplying said replacement part to said first repair
- 25 subscriber; and
- paying the price to said second repair subscriber.
3. The product repairing method according to claim 1, wherein, if said replacement part necessary for the requested

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repair is not in stock, the step of procuring said replacement part from said one of the second repair subscribers includes the steps of:

disclosing information on the possible procurement of said replacement part to said plurality of second repair subscribers by way of a web site;

inputting information on the replacement part to be sold to said web site by any of said plurality of second repair subscribers having an intention of selling the replacement part;

selecting one of said second repair subscribers having the intention of selling the repair subscriber; and

procuring the replacement part from the selected one of said second repair subscribers.

4. The product repairing method according to claim 3, wherein said information on the replacement part to be sold includes a suggested price at which said replacement part is to be sold and said one of said second repair subscribers is selected when the input suggested price does not exceed an upper limit set by said first repair subscriber and is the lowest among the suggested prices input by said second repair subscribers.

5. The product repairing method according to claim 1, wherein said request from said first repair subscriber for repairing the product is received by way of a web site.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein said replacement part is sold to said first repair subscriber by way of a web site.

7. A product repairing apparatus comprising:

an input/output device connectable to a plurality of repair

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subscribers, said input/output device having:

a repair reception section adapted to receive an input of a request for a repair of a product from one of said repair subscribers;

5 a replacement part sales section adapted to input/output information on a possible sale of the replacement part to the requesting repair subscriber provided that the replacement part necessary for the requested repair is in stock; and

10 a replacement part procuring section adapted to input/output information on a procurement of the replacement part from any of the repair subscribers other than the repair subscriber requesting the repair provided that the replacement part is not in stock; and

15 a memory device storing information on said repair subscribers as a data base.

20 8. The product repairing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said input/output device has an escrow section adapted to receive consignment information of said replacement part input by said repair subscribers having an intention of selling the replacement part and also to receive deposit information of a price of said replacement part input by said requesting repair subscriber in order to realize the sale/purchase of the replacement part between said repair subscribers.

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